GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2776
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2008
RURAL HEALTHCARE SYSTEM
Meinya Dr. Thokchom;Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rural healthcare infrastructure in the country is functioning only on papers as reported in the 'Times of India' dated 02 October,2008;

(b) if so,the details of the facts reported therein;

(c) whether the Supreme Court has expressed concern over the functioning of the rural healthcare system in the country;

(d) if so,the details thereof;and

(e) the effective steps taken by the Government to improve the conditions of rural healthcare centres in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) No,Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) & (d): No,Sir.No observation has come to the notice of Government over the functioning of rural healthcare system in any order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.There was,however,coverage in the Newspaper regarding remarks of learned judges.

(e) The endeavor of the Government through National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) is to provide accessible affordable and quality health care to rural population,especially to the vulnerable section wherein upgradation/strengthening/establishment of new Sub-centres,Primary Health Centres and Community Health Centres is an ongoing process depending upon the need on the basis of population,caseload and distance.The need is projected by the State/UT Governments in their annual Programme Implementation Plan (PIP) that are approved by National Programme Coordination Committee (NPCC) under NRHM,infrastructure strengthening being the major thrust area under NRHM.